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Climate Change, Renewable Energy, and the Hong Kong Connection

In a literature review, 97% of climate scientists have concluded that anthropogenic climate change is happening. This April produced the record for the first month in human history with average carbon dioxide in Earth's atmosphere above 400 parts per million.<sup>1</sup> Climate change is affecting where and how Americans live and work as well as their health, and evidence is mounting that burning fossil fuels has made extreme weather such as heat waves and heavy precipitation much more likely in the USA, according to the National Climate Assessment

current trajectory, we are at risk of pushing our climate system toward abrupt, unpredictable, and



Hong Kong imports 100% of its energy from China. It is completely energy dependent. Additionally, it is not explicitly stated what sort of energy mix is being exported. Following the Fukushima crisis in Japan, citizens of China and Hong Kong have been extremely sensitive regarding nuclear power plants. With Daya Bay Nuclear Power Plant in the Guangdong

However, according to CLP, it is “too expensive for this part of the world” and there is a high tariff. CLP has been supplying electricity at 99.999% reliability to the people of Hong Kong. The company prides itself regarding this statistic, as it is one of the best in the world. With this core value in place, it provides an intriguing barrier for the intermittent energy sources such as wind and solar. Additionally, Hong Kong’s geography serves as additional constraints. As an island territory and high a population density, land costs are constantly increasing (one of the highest in the world) and land availability on the island is decreasing rapidly with constant development of high-rise apartments and malls. This creates additional economic constraints on

